

DISASTER NEWS

Economic Injury Loans for Small Businesses

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SBA Disaster Loan Deadline is June 20 Small Business owners still have time to apply

Harrisburg, PA - The U.S. Small Business Administration reminds small businesses affected by the severe storms, flooding and tornadoes associated with Tropical Depression Frances occurring on September 8 and 9 that the filing deadline for Economic Injury Disaster Loans (EIDLs) is June 20, 2005.

SBA's EIDLs are still available to small businesses unable to pay bills or meet operating expenses because of the disaster. Eligible small businesses may qualify for loans up to \$1.5 million. These loans are available at a 2.90 percent interest rate with loan terms up to 30 years, and are limited to those small businesses that cannot recover through their own financial resources.

As a result of the Presidential declaration, small businesses in the primary counties of Beaver, Bedford, Blair, Butler, Crawford, Erie, Huntingdon, Lawrence, Warren and Washington as well as the contiguous counties of Allegheny, Armstrong, Cambria, Centre, Clarion, Clearfield, Elk, Fayette, Forest, Franklin, Fulton, Greene, Juniata, McKean, Mercer, Mifflin, Somerset, Venango and Westmoreland in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania; Allegany in the State of Maryland; Cattaraugus and Chautauqua in the State of New York; Ashtabula, Columbiana, Mahoning and Trumbull in the State of Ohio; and Brooke, Hancock, Marshall and Ohio in the State of West Virginia are eligible to apply for working capital loans to offset their disaster related needs.

Interested business owners should contact the SBA Disaster Area 3 Office at 14925 Kingsport Road, Fort Worth, Texas 76155, or call **1-800-366-6303** for more information or to obtain an application. The hearing-impaired may call SBA via the Federal Relay Service (FRS) at **1-817-267-4688.** Completed loan applications must be returned to SBA no later than June 20, 2005.

For more information visit SBA's website at www.sba.gov/disaster